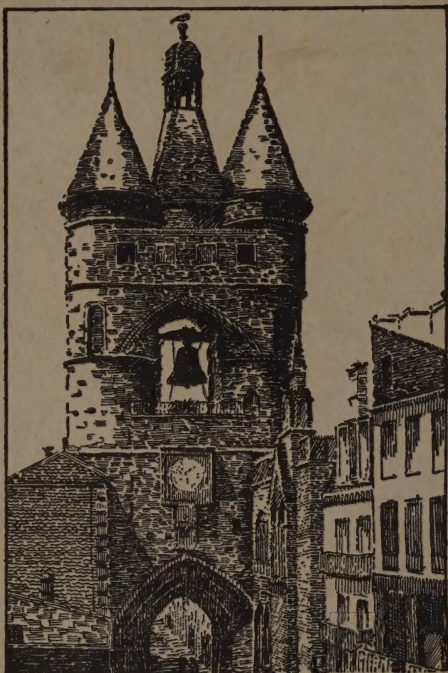


# HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY

AN ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET  
WITH HISTORICAL SKETCH  
OF A FAMOUS COMMUNITY

COMPILED BY  
HILDA E. STREETER  
FOR BENEFIT OF  
CHERRY VALLEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

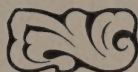


From The Library of  
Madelyn Shearer



# HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY

An Illustrated Booklet with Historical  
Sketch of a Famous Community



Compiled By

HILDA E. STREETER

For Benefit of

Cherry Valley Memorial Library

## Cherry Valley Has Given to History:

---

Her patriots to serve our country in the Revolution,  
the Civil War, and the World War.

Her hospitality to pioneers traveling westward in  
covered wagons to build a growing nation.

Her finest sons to serve the world as ministers of  
the Gospel, physicians, statesmen, lawyers, inventors,  
financiers and educators.

## Cherry Valley Offers to You:

---

Her hospitality as you journey east or west on business or on pleasure bent.

Her many spots of historic interest.

Her library, stored with records of the past.

Her quiet, wooded hills, the upward lift of distant views, clear mountain air, and all the peace of unspoiled natural beauty.

## Foreword

We have observed that the average tourist wants facts, so in this little Guide Book of Cherry Valley we have endeavored to present the most important dates and doings connected with this historic village, feeling sure that those who wish to dig deeper into its romantic past will consult the books listed in the bibliography on a later page.

We wish to acknowledge our indebtedness in compiling the information given in this Guide Book to the Rev. H. U. Swinnerton for his "The Story of Cherry Valley"; to John Sawyer, author of "The History of Cherry Valley"; and to the descendants of Mrs. William S. Little, author of "The Story of the Massacre of Cherry Valley"; also to Clarence Gallt for his map of the village; and to all others who have furnished illustrations and other material.



## Historical Sketch

Cherry Valley, known to the Indians as Karatonga or Karitongeh, is located in northern Otsego County on the Great Western Turnpike, fifty-two miles west of Albany. A mile north of the village is the ridge which marks the watershed between the Mohawk and Susquehanna Valleys; three miles northeast, on the Turnpike itself, is Prospect Hill or Mt. Independence, from which can be seen almost the entire Mohawk Valley, the Adirondacks, and even the Green Mountains. The altitude of the Township varies from 1,300 to 2,301 feet, the highest point being the Signal Station, three and one-half miles east of the village, from which can be seen on a clear day a complete circle of distant hills.

The history of the village has been greatly influenced by its location and is no less interesting. In 1738 a grant of 7,050 acres was made by George II. to four men, one of whom, John Lindesay, a Scotchman, had the entire tract assigned to him and settled here in 1739. Other settlers followed, among them the Rev. Samuel Dunlop, a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, who, by 1743, had established the first classical school and the first English-speaking church west of the Hudson. He it was, also, who named the settlement Cherry Valley because of the abundance of wild cherry trees. By the opening of the Revolution the population had increased to over three hundred.

Its position on the western frontier made it necessary for the little settlement to protect itself. During the French War a fort was built and a company of Rangers maintained. In 1778, because of its commanding position, the house of Col. Samuel Campbell, north of the village was

stockaded. The same year General Lafayette ordered a fort to be built and placed Col. Ichabod Alden in command. These were wise precautions, but Col. Alden was inexperienced in border warfare and on Nov. 11, 1778, about seven hundred Senecas and Tories under Capt. Walter Butler and Joseph Brant (Tha-yen-da-na-gue) attacked the village and, through the Colonel's lack of vigilance, succeeded in killing or capturing most of the population.

Hardly had the Revolution ended when the survivors, who had taken refuge along the Mohawk, returned and speedily built up the largest settlement southwest of that River. In 1795 the re-established academy was in charge of the Rev. Solomon Spaulding, author of the Biblical romance which later fell into the hands of Joseph Smith and was used by him as the basis of Mormonism. The next year the Rev. Eliphalet Nott, later President of Union Collège, took charge of both the school and the Presbyterian Church and the former was incorporated under the Board of Regents. By 1800 the first Great Western Turnpike was built. In 1815 there were fifteen taverns within the village and sixty-two in the fifty-two miles between Albany and Cherry Valley. Besides long-distance stage-lines, there were eight local ones, one going as far as Catskill, another to Utica. Sometimes as many as thirty or forty prairie schooners stopped for the night in the village square. A fire-company was started, the National Central Bank was founded, a common district school was opened, the Cherry Valley Gazette was first published, four companies of infantry and three of artillery were maintained. Clubs, the annual "sugaring-off", Fourth of July balls, and lawsuits held in the evening furnished the recreation of the day. The village had its marble works, cabinet maker, iron and brass foundries, book-store, drug-store, millinery shop, dentist's office, tanneries, distilleries, hat and last factories. In short, the whole place hummed with growing life.



The first blow to the prosperity of Cherry Valley was the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, followed by the opening of the New York Central Railroad, both of which diverted the main stream of commerce. The panic of 1837 caused the failure of every merchant in the village. However, the town continued to be the residence of many men of national reputation as physicians, lawyers, merchants, and mechanics—of lawyers in particular, for a law school was started in 1847, about which time there were seventeen enjoying a practice here. Thus Cherry Valley was enabled to exert considerable political influence during the second quarter of the century.

The Civil War saw one-tenth of our population in service. Under Capt. Amos L. Swan, in charge of part of the old 39th militia, over six hundred men were enlisted within four months and later consolidated with the 76th N. Y. S. V., who served at Gettysburg and Appomattox. In the fall of '61, Lieut. Philip R. Wales organized a troop of cavalry which became a part of the 6th N. Y. The next year two companies were formed under Col. Egbert Olcott with headquarters at Herkimer. Other individuals were scattered about in other organizations. In all, Cherry Valley sent at least eleven captains, seven lieutenants, and nine non-commissioned officers. A number of the men lay in southern prisons and forty-two are known to have been killed.

As a result of the war, the famous old Academy, some of whose pupils came from southern states, was closed and several local industries were crippled or obliged to go out of business. The village, however, was brought into closer contact with the outside world through the opening of the Cherry Valley, Sharon Springs and Albany Railroad in 1870, to join the Albany and Susquehanna at Cobleskill, both of which were later purchased by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. In 1876 the Academy property

on Alden Street was converted into the Grand Hotel which flourished until 1895 when it was destroyed by fire. In '78 the village celebrated the centennial of the massacre by the dedication of a monument, unveiled by six descendants of the families here at the time of the tragedy. In 1881 an academy was opened on Church Street near Montgomery, which failed fourteen years later through inadequate support. It was succeeded by a modern high school, chartered by the Regents in 1899. The nineteenth century closed much more quietly in Cherry Valley than did the preceding one, as the village had long since ceased to be a bustling trade-center and its inhabitants sought to keep it a scene of rural contentment.

The high pressure of the twentieth century had little effect upon Cherry Valley until the entrance of our country into the World War, when immediately the whole town was mobilized into the service of the Red Cross, an active branch of which is still maintained, and many of our citizens volunteered for military service. Altogether, out of a population of less than fifteen hundred in the township, 48 saw service in the army or navy and 3 gave their lives to the cause. As a lasting memorial to these brave men the Cherry Valley Memorial Library on the corner of Main and Church Streets was built by the townspeople and dedicated on September 8, 1924. Back in 1896 a public library had been started by the Village Improvement Society which was housed successively in the old high school on Lancaster Hill and in the Village Hall, both of which it outgrew. It is now established in a building whose beauty and appropriateness as a war memorial have attracted much attention. Another sign of after-war development is the completed section of the modern Great Western Turnpike which has brought back to us the never-ending stream of travelers east and west. Who can doubt, but, that under modern conditions of trade and pleasure trips, Cherry Valley will once more come into her own as a village abreast of the times, yet preserving her identity as a place of natural beauty!

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### NEW TURNPIKE: COX'S BEND, ONE-QUARTER MILE WEST OF VILLAGE.

Built in 1924 over the route opened in 1799-1800 for the Great Albany Turnpike, a section of the Great Western Turnpike, running from Albany to Skaneateles Lake. The eastern end was formerly known as the Cherry Valley Turnpike.

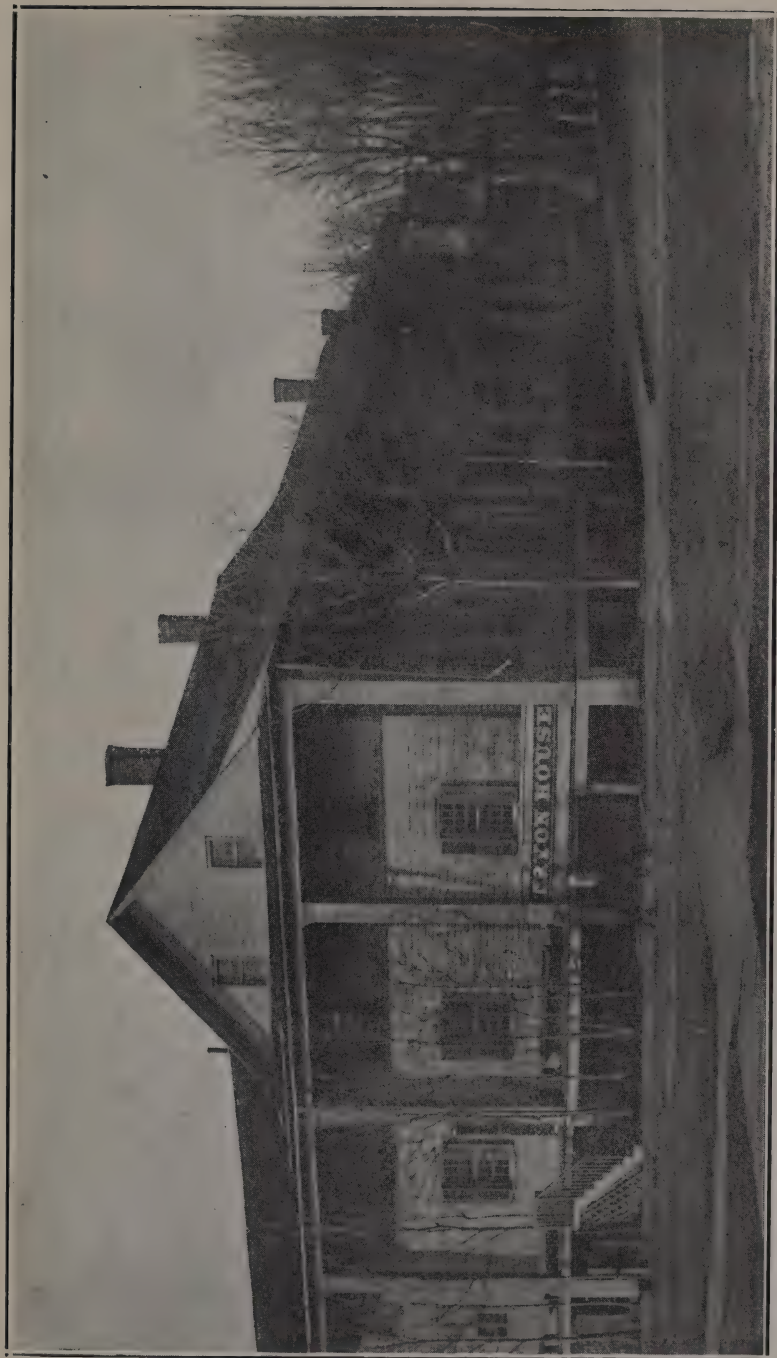


## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### TOLLGATE

Taken down a few years ago. Was located one mile south of the village on a plank road which extended down the valley about twelve miles, following the old Indian trail from the Mohawk to the Susquehanna.



### OLD TRYON TAVERN

Destroyed by fire in June 1866. Famous in Cherry Valley's stage-coach days. Located at the corner of Montgomery and Genesee Streets on the site previously occupied by the Thomas Whitaker Tavern, built in 1786, perhaps the first tavern in this section.



### NEW TRYON TAVERN

Opened in 1926. Situated on Upper Main Street in the midst of a twenty-acre park generally known as "Waldron's Grove". Furnished throughout with antiques. Caters especially to automobile tourists, tea and dinner guests. Has facilities for tennis and other sports.



## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



This clock which was made by James Allen at Kilmarnock, Scotland, in 1728, was brought to Cherry Valley by James Campbell and stood in his home northeast of the Village at the time of the Massacre, November 11, 1778.

When the Indians and Tories attacked the village, Mr. Campbell and his wife with their children, one being but a week old, escaped to Fort Plain, being one of the few families to survive.

The hired man, a youth of 19, seized the clock as the most valuable portable article, and carried it to the woods where it was safely buried. When the settlers returned later, the clock was resurrected and began again to tick off the hours as though nothing had happened.

The clock has since been handed down from generation to generation, and is still keeping time at Cherry Valley in the home of its present owner, Mr. William C. Waldron.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### CENTRAL HOTEL

Monument Square, Henry Whitbeck, owner and proprietor. Open from early spring until late fall. Built in the 'nineties by the owner's father.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' MONUMENT

Erected by the village in memory of her men who fought in the Civil War, at which time nearly one-tenth of the entire population enlisted.



## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### MASONIC BLOCK

Located on west side of Monument Square, formerly known as Union Block.

The first Masonic Lodge of Cherry Valley was instituted in 1806 under the name of Trinity Lodge, No. 139, F. & A. M. Among the members and for some time its Master, was Dr. Joseph White, who was the first man initiated into Otsego Lodge at Cooperstown in 1795.

Soon after 1817 a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was instituted. There was also at one time a flourishing encampment of Knights Templar.

In 1824 the Masons of Cherry Valley were very active in assisting the Greeks in their struggle for freedom. The present organization was effected in 1854.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### VILLAGE HALL

Located on the corner of Main and Wall Streets. Originally John Judd's Iron Foundry, built before 1850. Purchased by the late Miss Catherine Roseboom and presented by her to the village for the use of the firemen, on the 129th anniversary of the massacre, Nov. 11, 1907. Houses the Fire Department and an auditorium.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### NATIONAL CENTRAL BANK

Established 1818. First President, Dr. Joseph White, President of the first State Medical Society and first Judge of Otsego County. For its first twenty years the most powerful financial institution in Central New York. It has never failed to meet its obligations promptly.



## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### LITHIA SPRING

On Alden Street near Monument Square, site of old Academy. The water is piped from higher ground a mile away and is much valued by the townspeople for its pleasant taste and medicinal properties.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### ENTRANCE TO CEMETERY

On Alden Street. On either side of the gate is a mortar and at either front corner a pyramid of 10-inch shells, given by the D. A. R. to mark the boundaries of the old stockade.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### MASSACRE MONUMENT

Within the southwest portion of the cemetery. Marks the spot where the remains of the settlers killed in the massacre of 1778 are buried. Dedicated during the centennial year, 1878.



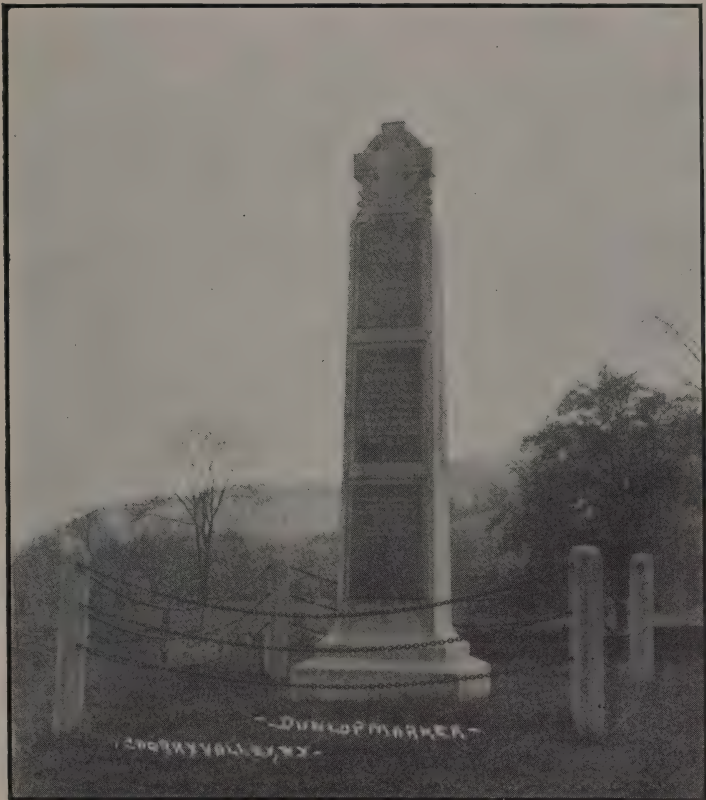
## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### ALDEN MARKER

One-eighth mile south of the village. Scene of death of Col. Ichabod Alden who was tomahawked during his flight from the Wells House to the Fort. Given by the D. A. R.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### DUNLOP MARKER

On the estate of the donor, Capt. Abraham B. Cox, one-quarter mile west of the village. Site of house of the Rev. Samuel Dunlop whose wife and children were massacred nearby.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### WORMUTH MARKER

On Old Fort Plain Road, two miles north of village. Scene of killing of Lieut. Matt. Wormuth in the summer of 1778, by his personal friend Joseph Brant, who scalped him before recognizing him.



## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### BARRACKS, LATER KNOWN AS BATES' HOP-HOUSE.

On Lancaster Hill. Used during the Civil War.  
Over 600 recruits were quartered here between  
Sept. 1861 and Jan. 1, 1862.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### NEW MEMORIAL LIBRARY

On corner of Main and Church Streets. Dedicated Sept. 8, 1924, to the memory of the men who served in the World War. Lot given by Capt. A. B. Cox. Money for building raised by public subscription. Houses 7,000 volumes, many of considerable value.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY

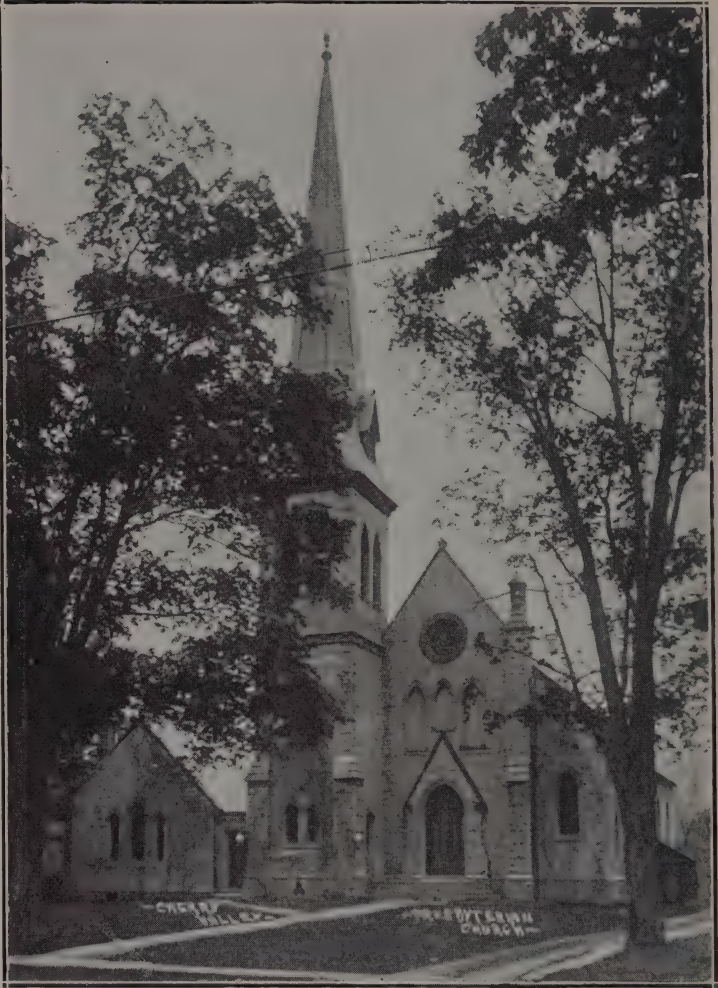


### HIGH SCHOOL

Located on Turnpike just west of village. The modern representative of a classical tradition, dating back to 1743.



## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On Alden Street. The fifth building of that denomination in this village, the first being built in 1742. Built by the late Miss Catherine Roseboom, dedicated Oct. 1, 1873.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

On Montgomery Street. Episcopal services were held in Cherry Valley as early as 1797. The present parish was incorporated April 13, 1838.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

On Main Street. Organized in 1828 with 16 members. Present Edifice built in 1835. Remodeled in 1868, again in 1887.



## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### ST. THOMAS' ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Corner Church and Montgomery Streets. St. Thomas' Roman Catholic Congregation is the youngest of the four in the historic Cherry Valley, having been organized in 1902. It belongs to the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Albany.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### WILLOW HILL

Residence of the Late Edward Phelon. The first house on this site, occupied by John Wells, was burned at the time of the Massacre. The present house was built by Judge Ephraim Hudson in 1794. It was bought by Joseph Phelon in 1832 and has since been in the Phelon family.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### AUCHINBRECK

North of village on Old Fort Plain Road. Residence of Douglas Campbell. Site of house of James Campbell, built in 1741. In front are two pyramids of 10-inch shells, given by the Ordnance Department to mark the location of the stockade built by Col. Samuel Campbell in 1778.



## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### MORSE HOUSE

On Montgomery Street. Owned by Harold Morse of Pittsfield, Mass. Birthplace of Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity and one-time residence of the inventor of the telegraph.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### CLYDE HOUSE

On Main Street, nearly opposite Village Hall. At one time owned and occupied by Dr. Delos White, son of the distinguished Dr. Joseph White, and himself one of the most noted physicians in the State a century ago. Later the residence of the late Capt. James Clyde, a descendant of Col. Samuel Clyde of Revolutionary Fame.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### SUTLIFF HOUSE

Owned by Jesse Sutliff. One of the many taverns during the "Prairie Schooner Days". Located on Main Street, two doors from Clyde House.



## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### GLENSFOOT

On Turnpike west of village. Residence of Capt. A. B. Cox. Bought by Dr. Joseph White, who was the leading physician in the state in 1793, and has since been owned by his descendants.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### OAKWOOD

Residence of Franklin G. Campbell, two miles south of village on Roseboom Road. Mathew Campbell, the grandfather of the present owner, lived and died here. When a boy of six he was captured and taken into captivity by the Indians at the time of the Massacre, Nov. 1778.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### THE LIME KILN

Located southeast of village. Summer home of Alfred McClung of Pittsburgh, Pa. Nearby stood one of the several lime kilns in use seventy-five years ago.



## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### TAKAHARAWA FALLS

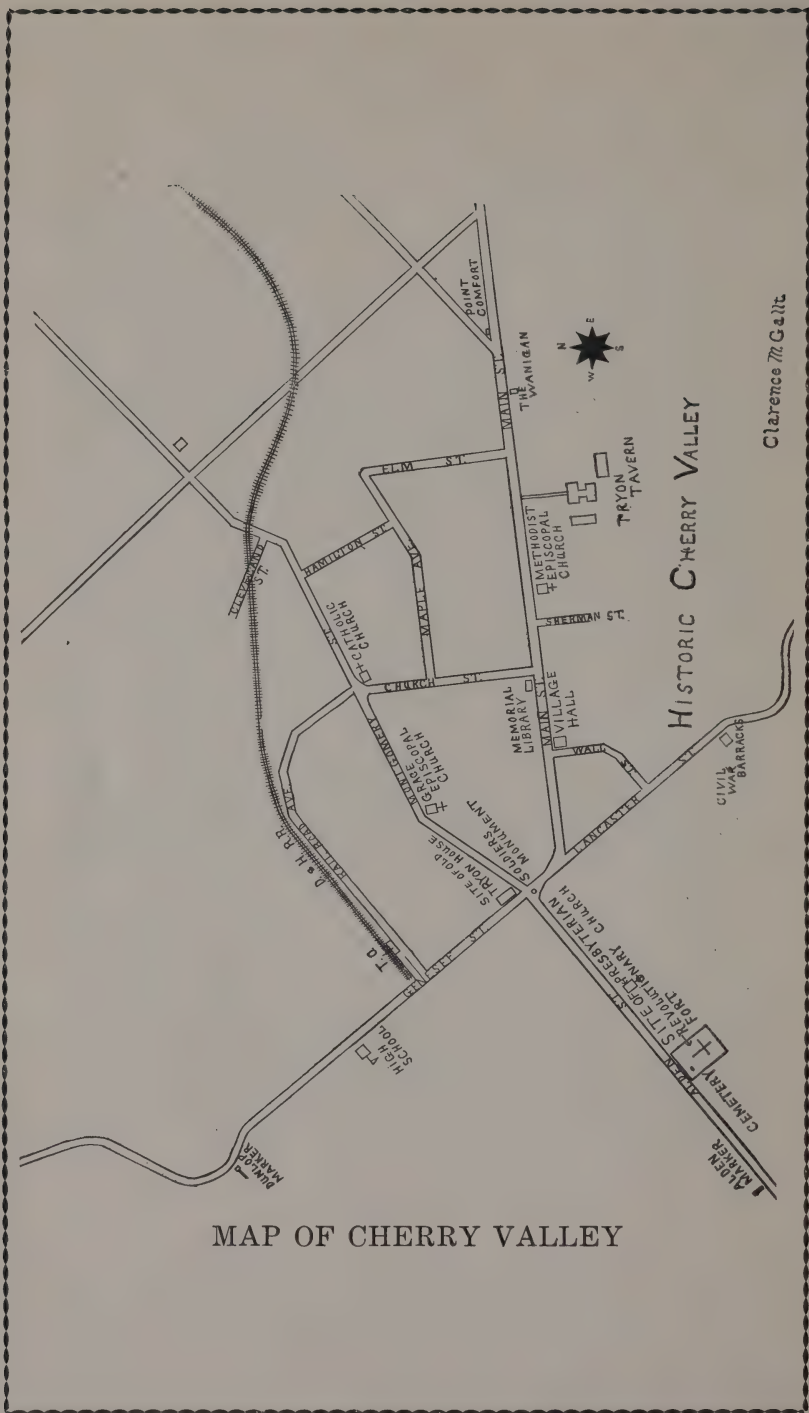
Two miles north of village. Also known as Judd's Falls, because of the fact that Judd's Iron Foundry was located here during the early part of the 19th century.

## HISTORIC CHERRY VALLEY



### ROSEBOOM ROAD

Two miles south of village, built along the old Mohawk-Susquehanna Trail. Taken from the lawn of the Franklin G. Campbell estate.



Clarence M. Galt



## Bibliography

- History of Cherry Valley ----- Sawyer, John  
*C. V. Gazette, Printer*, 1898
- Annals of Tryon County ----- Campbell, W. W.  
*N. Y., Dodd, 4th Ed.*, 1924.
- Old New York Frontier ----- Halsey, F. W.  
*N. Y., Scribner*, 1901.
- Brandt and Red Jacket ----- Eggleston, Edward  
*N. Y., Dodd*.
- Public Papers of Geo. Clinton (Revolution ser.)  
*Alb., Lyon*, 1901
- Reminiscences ----- Beardsley, Levi  
*N. Y., Vinter*, 1852
- Story of Cherry Valley ----- Swinnerton, H. U.  
*Cherry Valley, N. D.*, 22 p.
- Cherry Valley Presbyterian Church; historical  
 account ----- Swinnerton, H. U.  
*Cherry Valley*, 1876, 40 p.
- 129th Anniversary of the Cherry Valley  
 Massacre ----- Leaning, Mary S.  
*Cherry Valley Chapter D. A. R.*  
*Cherry Valley*, 1907, 31 p.
- Story of the Massacre of Cherry Valley -----  
 Little, Mrs. W. S.  
 1890, 29 p.
- Proceedings of the Centennial of the Cherry  
 Valley Massacre ----- Sawyer, J. L.  
*Gazette Print, Cherry Valley*, 1878, 82 p.
- Central New York in the Revolution (an ad-  
 dress) ----- Campbell, Douglass  
*N. Y., Ficker*, 1878, 34 p.
- Historic Cherry Valley ----- Streeter, Hilda E.  
*Gazette Press, Cherry Valley*, 1926, 48 p.
- History of Otsego County from 1740-1878  
*Everts & Fariss, Phila.*, 1878

## Fiction

- Red Chief ----- Tomlinson, E. T.  
*Houghton*, 1905
- Little Red Foot ----- Chambers, R. W.  
*Doran*, 1921
- Hidden Children ----- Chambers, R. W.  
*Appleton*, 1914

# Cherry Valley Business Directory

## HOTELS:

Central Hotel ..... Monument Square  
Tryon Tavern ..... Upper Main Street

## INNS:

Mrs. Homer Gallt (board all the year) .....  
..... Upper Main Street  
Kozy Cottage ..... Genesee Street  
Linden Court (rooms and board all the year)  
..... Alden Street  
Martha's Inn ..... Main Street  
Mrs. William Pickett ..... Main Street  
Mrs. L. W. Sherman (rooms and board all  
the year) ..... Main Street  
Mrs. Lois Tice ..... Alden Street

## RESTAURANTS:

Peek Inn Restaurant ..... Monument Square

## GARAGES AND TIRE SHOPS:

Cherry Valley Garage (Chevrolet and Hud-  
son) ..... Genesee Street  
The Motor Shop (Nash) ..... Alden Street  
Raymond Leneker (Willys-Overland) .....  
..... Main Street  
Van Alstine & Weller (Ford) ..... Main Street  
Bert Crane, Vulcanizing and Tire Repairs  
..... Main Street

## ANTIQUES AND GIFTS:

The Cherry Valley Gift Shop ..... Main Street  
Charles Lewis ..... Upper Main Street  
Dr. J. H. Linden ..... Genesee Street  
The Ripley Hall Antique Shop ..... Main Street

## PHYSICIANS:

Dr. J. H. Linden ----- Montgomery Street  
Dr. G. L. Merritt ----- Lancaster Street  
Dr. N. F. Yates ----- Alden Street

## STORES:

The Huddleston-Walton Co., Bakery -----  
----- Monument Square  
J. J. Fonda, Boots and Shoes -----  
----- Monument Square  
F. J. Gilday, Boots and Shoes -----  
----- Monument Square  
B. Jacobson, Dry Goods ----- Monument Square  
E. C. Fonda, Dry Goods and Notions -----  
----- Monument Square  
French's Five and Ten Cent Store -----  
----- Main Street  
Chillele's Grocery ----- Main Street  
The Great A. & P. Co., Grocery -----  
----- Monument Square  
Seth Pearson & Co., Drugs and Groceries --  
----- Main Street  
Schaffer Stores, Grocery -- Monument Square  
F. S. Brien, Hardware ----- Monument Square  
Van Alstine & Weller, Hardware -- Main Street  
Hardendorf & Son, Meats and Groceries -----  
----- Monument Square  
A. D. Thompson, Meat Market -----  
----- Foot of Lancaster Street  
A. J. Thompson, Watches and Jewelry -----  
----- Monument Square

## MISCELLANEOUS:

The National Central Bank -----  
----- Monument Square  
Allen's Barber Shop, Billiards and Pool -----  
----- Masonic Bldg.  
Fonda's Barber Shop -----  
----- Foot of Lancaster Street



Launsback's Barber Shop ----- Main Street  
 G. E. Pegg & Son, Beekeepers and Florists --  
 ----- Upper Main Street  
 John Wikoff, Blacksmithing --- Genesee Street  
 Borden Farm Products Co. -----  
 ----- Near D. & H. Station  
 W. J. Nelson, Cabinet Making and Expert  
 Repairing ----- Masonic Bldg.  
 Glensfoot Farm, Dairy Products, -----  
 ----- Great Western Turnpike  
 Dr. Earl B. Leneker, Veterinarian -----  
 ----- Upper Main Street  
 The Montgomery Electric Light & Power  
 Co. ----- Main Street  
 Barringer & Shipway, Farm Machinery ----  
 ----- Genesee Street  
 H. D. & I. E. Cole & Sons, Feed, Coal and  
 Building Materials, ----- Genesee Street  
 The Cherry Valley Gazette ---- Genesee Street  
 J. L. Sawyer, Job Printing ---- Genesee Street  
 W. C. Sutliff, Hay Buyer ----- Maple Avenue  
 Almond Cramer, Law Offices, ---- Main Street  
 Barnum Brothers, Law Offices -- Masonic Bldg.  
 C. J. Armstrong & Sons, Lumber -----  
 ----- Near D. & H. Station  
 G. F. Boyce, The Monument Shop, -----  
 ----- Genesee Street  
 John Feulner, Tailor; also Police Dogs and  
 Beagles ----- Main Street  
 The Otsego and Delaware Telephone Co. --  
 ----- Monument Square  
 The Cherry Valley Radio Exchange -----  
 ----- Montgomery Street  
 The Sheffield Milk Co. ---- Near D. & H. Station

GUIDE BOOK COMMITTEE

CAPTAIN ABRAHAM B. COX

MOLLIE SUTLIFF

Librarian, Cherry Valley Memorial Library

HILDA E. STREETER

Press of  
CHERRY VALLEY GAZETTE  
C. L. Ryder, Publisher





